



COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(*WALTER HY. ALLEN, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.*)

TO THE

SANITARY AND EDUCATION AUTHORITY

ON THE

Health of the District

AND THE


Medical Inspection of School Children

FOR THE YEAR

1913.

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Annual Report

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, FOR THE YEAR 1913.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Coseley Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour and pleasure of submitting the Annual Report for the year 1913. Having been favoured with the appointment of Medical Officer of Health to your district since September, necessitates my reporting on the last four months' working of the year, and the previous eight months' working of your former Medical Officer of Health. The Local Government Board increases the duties each year of the Medical Officer of Health, and expects more detailed reports.

The district is bounded on the West by Sedgley.

„ „ „ „ „ „ South by Dudley.

„ „ „ „ „ „ North by Bilston and
Wolverhampton.

„ „ „ „ „ „ East by Tipton.

The district is drained by several small streams, which finally enter the Tame.

The area is 3,737 acres, and the population, as estimated by the County Medical Officer of Health for the middle of the year 1913, is 22,981. Consequently, I have worked out the death-rates and other percentages according to that figure. This gives an average of 6.1 persons per acre. The district is very uneven in its surface, having been undermined years ago. In some parts the land has become solid, but in others, not.

The population consists principally of the artisan class, who, although they reside in the district, in a number of instances earn their livelihood outside. The new colliery at Baggeridge, having been opened and in full swing, has found occupation for resident miners.

VITAL STATISTICS.

During the year 1913 741 births were registered, comprising 383 males and 356 females—total 739—giving a birth-rate of 36.5 per thousand.

TABLE I.

URBAN DISTRICT OF COSELEY.

Vital Statistics of whole district during 1913 and previous years.

YEAR	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate*	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate*					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	22,250	757	757	34.02	318	14.2	..	22	92	120	340	15.28
1909	22,250	740	740	33.25	358	16.08	..	33	85	115	391	17.57
1910	22,250	675	675	30.33	283	12.7	..	42	78	115	325	14.6
1911	22,250	650	650	29.2	323	14.5	..	35	79	121	358	16.0
1912	22,250	572	577	25.93	267	12.0	..	43	59	102	310	13.9
1913	22,981	741	741	36.5	317	13.7	..	60	99	132	377	16.46

* Rates in Columns 5, 7, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages	22,981	} At Census of 1911
Number of inhabited houses	...	..	4,872
Average number of persons per house	...	...	4.71
Area of District, in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	...	...	3,737

The deaths registered number 377 belonging to the district, 317 being registered in the district, of whom 173 were males and 144 females. This gives a death-rate of 13.7 per thousand. There were 60 transferable deaths, of which two were illegitimate, occurring outside the district, comprising 37 males and 23 females, and adding these deaths to those registered in the district, gives a death-rate of 16.46.

The following table shows the mortality in the various months, and the death-rate:—

Month.	No. of Deaths.			Rate.
January	...	23	...	13.0
February	...	34	...	19.4
March	...	26	...	14.5
April	...	26	...	14.5
May	...	40	...	22.2
June	...	29	...	16.9
July	...	18	...	11.2
August	...	25	...	14.1
September	...	18	...	11.2
October	...	32	...	18.8
November	...	18	...	11.2
December	...	25	...	14.1

February and May show the highest number of deaths, while lowest, and equal in number, are July, September, and November.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The following table gives the deaths and death-rates from these diseases during the past five years. There were 43 deaths in 1913, as compared with 32 in previous year, giving a zymotic death-rate of 1.88 per thousand.

		Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Whooping Cough	Euteric Fever	Diarrhoea	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever	Totals	Rate per 1,000
1913	...	0	18	0	2	3	1	18	0	1	43	1.88
1912	...	0	15	2	1	5	1	7	1	0	32	1.43
1911	...	0	23	2	1	0	0	28	1	0	55	2.47
1910	...	0	0	1	0	9	2	12	1	2	27	1.2
1909	...	0	15	0	1	13	5	15	0	2	51	2.29

TABLE II.
URBAN DISTRICT OF COSELEY.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY					
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years											
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65						
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	10	1	2	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Membranous Croup) ...	9	—	—	2	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	24	2	7	12	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	57	—	4	8	12	20	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	22	2	5	10	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum													
Totals	131	9	18	38	19	28	18	1					

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The following table shows the mortality amongst children under one year, and the proportion per 1,000 births registered, for the previous five years:—

Year		Deaths under 1 year		Mortality per 1,000 Births
1913	...	99	...	132
1912	...	59	...	102
1911	...	79	...	121
1910	...	78	...	115
1909	...	85	...	115

In 1913 there were 741 births and 99 deaths in infants, i.e., under one year of age, giving a death-rate of 132 per thousand births registered.

Comparing the birth-rate in infants this year (741) with that of 1912 (577), shows an increase of 164.

Comparing the death-rate in infants this year (99) with that of 1912 (59), shows an increase of 40.

The increase in births is probably accounted for by the maternity benefit derived from the National Insurance Scheme, as the mother knows that she can be better cared for in her accouchement now than she was in past years.

MEASLES.

There were 18 deaths during the year. This disease once started in a district soon becomes epidemic; it attacks children mostly under five years of age, although no one is immune from it. Not being a notifiable disease it is impossible to form any definite percentage of its occurrence of cases. As soon as the absentees from school show a percentage of 50 per cent. of attendance at school, the latter is closed.

Parents do not seem to realise the danger of the complaint, and children are often seen running about the streets with the rash, and doctors are often not consulted till one of its worst complications, viz., Broncho-Pneumonia, has developed. There are more deaths from it amongst the working class than the upper, as the children among the former are not so carefully nursed, and die from its severe complications in consequence.

One of the worst complications, in addition to Broncho-Pneumonia, mentioned above, is a condition called cancrum oris, attacking the jaw-bone and eating it away. Fortunately, it is not common, but I had one case in my practice during the year, which proved fatal. I quote this case to show the seriousness of the disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 24 cases notified during the year, as compared with 28 during the previous year. No case terminated fatally, as compared with 2 in 1912.

This being a notifiable disease, on receipt of notification I visit the house and give the instructions for isolation to the parents, and ascertain, if possible, how and where the case was contracted; in some cases I am successful in gaining the necessary information, but not in all. Now that your Council is dealing with neighbouring Authorities to take cases into their Hospitals for treatment, I hope to be able to report fewer cases in the future. Your Sanitary Inspector, at the termination of the cases treated at home, thoroughly disinfects the room in which the case was treated. I am pleased to report that no severe epidemic of Scarlet Fever occurred during the year.

WHOOPING COUGH.

The risk of infection in this disease is insufficiently understood, and very often no care is taken to prevent extension of the disease, either into one home, neighbouring houses or at school. The majority of cases occur in children below the school age. As a rule the Medical Officer of Health has no information of the existence of the disease in young children, unless the patient dies, and, in the older children, only late information is obtained from school.

In London alone, during the ten years 1903-1912, there were 13,222 deaths from Whooping Cough, in comparison with 6,308 from Diphtheria, and 3,928 from Scarlet Fever. In my opinion this disease should be made notifiable. This, like all other infectious diseases, has its severe sequelæ.

SMALL POX.

No case of the above has been notified during the year. It is to be regretted that parents are still availing themselves of the exemption certificate of vaccination. The penalty will have to be met, sooner or later, should we get an outbreak, with so many unvaccinated children.

DIPHTHERIA.

Ten cases have been notified during the year, as compared with one in the previous year.

Two deaths have occurred in the district during the year, as compared with one in 1912.

Your Council has wisely adopted the free use of anti-toxin for the prophylactic and curative treatment of the disease. I may say it has been used by several of the practitioners in the district with most gratifying results.

In no instance was there found any connection between the cases excepting those occurring in the same house. Two cases were notified from the Spread Eagle Inn, Church Road, and on your Sanitary Inspector's investigation he was able to ascertain the cause, which was from a blocked drain connected with the cellar by means of an imperfect trap. He at once made the fact known to the owner, who as early as possible had the defect remedied.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

79 Tubercular cases have been notified to your Council during the year, comprising 57 pulmonary and 22 from other sources. The cases in your district are treated at various places; some are receiving treatment at Moxley Sanatorium, some at sanatoria by the sea, a few are at the Infirmary, whilst others have to reside at home for domiciliary treatment.

Unfortunately, the disease occurs mostly among the artisan class, who can ill afford the care, proper housing and good nourishment that is necessary for them, and in many instances it is impossible to obtain separate sleeping accommodation, hence the danger of its infection to the community.

As soon as sufficient funds can be raised by the National Health Insurance Act, more Sanatoria will be erected throughout the country, then the latest treatment (tuberculin injections) can be more generally adopted, and in a few years there will be a smaller number of cases recorded; although it is not to be expected that it will ever be eradicated.

The disease, in its incipient stage, is not always easily diagnosed, but it is a great boon to the district, and a great help to doctors, now that you have allowed the free examination of sputum for tubercle bacilli by the University.

16 deaths have been reported during the year from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The following table shows the different ages at which death occurred:—

Between 2 and 5 years	...	...	3 deaths.
„ 15 „ 25 „	...	...	1 death.
„ 25 „ 45 „	...	...	9 deaths.
„ 45 „ 65 „	...	...	4 deaths.

Deaths from Tubercular Menengitis number 3.

Under one year	...	...	1 death.
Between 5 and 15 years	...	...	2 deaths.

There were 3 deaths from forms of Tuberculosis other than those mentioned above.

Under one year	...	...	1 death
Between 2 and 5 years	...	...	1 death.
„ 5 „ 15 „	...	...	1 death.

One case has been reported as a transferable death from Wolverhampton.

When a death is reported from Tuberculosis, your Sanitary Inspector immediately visits the house at which death occurred and thoroughly disinfects the sleeping apartments.

TABLE III.
URBAN DISTRICT OF COSELEY.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths of "Residents," whether in or beyond district									Total Deaths in Institutions in the District
	All ages	Under 1 Year	1 and Under 2	2 and Under 5	5 and Under 15	15 and Under 25	25 and Under 45	45 and Under 65	65 and up- wards	
All causes { Certified ... Uncertified ...	375 2									
Enteric Fever	1							1		1
Measles... ..	18	3	8	6	1					
Scarlet fever										
Whooping-cough	3	1	1	1						
Diphtheria and Croup	2	1	1							2
Influenza	4						1	2	1	
Erysipelas										
Phthisis (Pul'ary Tuber'sis)	17			3		2	8	4		3
Tuberculous Meningitis	3	1			2					2
Other Tuberculous diseases	3	1		1	1					
Cancer, Malignant disease	23						1	12	10	4
Rheumatic Fever	2						2			
Meningitis	5	2	1	1	1					
Organic Heart Disease	24					1	6	5	12	5

Bronchitis	27	10	3					2	4	8	
Pneumonia (all forms)	31	11	7	3			1	4	4	2	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1			1						1	
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ..	18	10	3	1	1			2		1	
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2						2			2	
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	6							2	3	1	
Alcoholism	1							1		1	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	9							2	6	1	2
Puerperal fever...	1						1				
Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy and parturition											
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	47	47								2	
Violent Deaths ...	14	1		2	4		2	2	1	2	4
Suicides	7						1	3	3	2	
Other defined diseases ...	104	7	1	1	4		3	6	24	58	29
Diseases unknown or ill-defined											
Totals	377	95	25	20	17	13	42	69	96	60	

ENTERIC FEVER.

Three cases have been notified during the year, and one death reported from it. Every precaution is taken to prevent it spreading. Your Sanitary Inspector and myself visit all the cases, ascertain the source of their milk supply, take notes of all sanitary defects in connection with the case; free and gratuitous germicides are supplied to each case.

DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS.

This disease accounts for 18 deaths during the year. A number of deaths are accounted for by the climatic changes, but a far greater number are brought about by improper feeding and want of cleanliness.

One of the methods of bringing up infants in this district is by bread soaked in milk, which, to a very young child, is most injurious, as it cannot digest starchy food at such an early age, but causes irritation in the bowels, and later, acute diarrhœa.

In bottle-fed children sufficient care is frequently not taken. I have discovered in many instances the same bottle has been used for several days without being properly cleansed, and thus producing one of the most virulent types of diarrhœa.

Also, children are frequently allowed to grovel in the dust, and inhale the germs, thus producing Diarrhœa by other means.

The following table shows the ages at which death took place:—

Under one year	...	...	...	10 deaths.
Between 1 and 2 years	...	...	...	3 deaths.
„ 2 „ 5 „	...	...	...	1 death.
„ 5 „ 15 „	...	...	...	1 death.
„ 25 „ 45 „	...	...	...	2 deaths.
„ 65 years and upwards	...	...	...	1 death.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Two cases of Puerperal Fever have been notified during the year, death resulting in one of them, after three months' duration of illness. It is surprising to think there are so few cases reported considering the insanitary conditions under which they are put to bed at child-birth.

As we have so very few certificated nurses in the district, the majority of the cases have to be attended to by inexperienced women who do not understand the nature and seriousness of the disease

It is no uncommon practice in the district for people to go into the bedroom of women who have recently been confined from homes that have been infected probably with Scarlet Fever or other infectious diseases.

HOUSING.

This is a question which is having the most careful attention of all Councils at the present time, and if we are to keep our district healthy and the death-record low, we must battle with the question in all earnestness, and have the co-operation of the property owners in helping to remedy defects, so that the working class can be housed under the most sanitary conditions. Building materials and labour having been increased in price the last few years have no doubt been the cause of fewer houses being erected.

During the year 12 new houses have been erected, which is no doubt a small number considering our acreage and population.

In addition to the 12 new houses before-mentioned, Closing Orders have been determined in 17 cases, after the houses have been rendered fit for human habitation; this makes an additional 29 houses in existence at the beginning of the year. Against this, 31 houses have been demolished, but as by far the majority of these were houses that had been standing empty for some considerable time, the housing accommodation is slightly better than it was twelve months ago.

Besides the 133 houses referred to in the following table, 613 houses have been inspected during the year. In almost every case these houses have been thoroughly examined. The chief defects noted were in connection with dampness, dirty rooms, insufficient ventilation, defective floors, windows, roofs, spouting, drains, paving, ashpits and out-buildings.

43 cases of overcrowding were discovered, which figure is greatly in excess of last year's number. As there is a scarcity of houses with three bedrooms considerable difficulty is frequently experienced in abating the nuisances due to overcrowding.

As there is considerably over 500 back-to-back houses in the district, a number of these have been converted into through houses, and become inhabited by some of the overcrowded. Consequently, the number has been somewhat diminished.

You will observe a considerable amount of work has been done to properties in remedying defects such as dampness, want of ventilation, spouting, paving, etc.

Property owners are becoming more enlightened to the fact that sanitation is the forerunner of health.

TABLE IV.

COSELEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1913.

CAUSE OF DEATH		Un'r 1 W'ks	1-2 W'ks	2-3 W'ks	3-4 W'ks	Total under 1 month	1-3 M'hs	3-6 M'hs	6-9 M'hs	9-12 M'hs	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	Certified ...	33	5	4	12	54	14	12	4	13	97
	Uncertified ...	2				2					2
Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox ...										
	Chicken-pox ...										
	Measles ...									2	2
	Scarlet Fever ...										
	Whooping Cough ...										
	Diphtheria and Croup ...	1				1				1	2
	Erysipelas ...	1				1					1
Tubercu- lous Diseases	Tuberculous Meningitis										
	Abdominal Tubercu- losis (<i>b</i>) ...										
	Other Tuberculous Diseases						1	1			2
	Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)						2				2
	Convulsions ...										
	Laryngitis ...										
	Bronchitis ...	1			5	6	2	2	1	2	13
	Pneumonia (all forms)...						2	3	2	6	13

Sanitary improvements have been effected in connection with 439 houses. The following is a list of the number of houses where the principal sanitary defects have been remedied:—

Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	134
„ damp remedied	...	...	...	...	...	155
„ overcrowding remedied	...	...	...	...	...	37
„ provided with improved ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	43
„ with floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	135
„ with roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	127
„ with spouting provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	81
„ with drains cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	183
„ with closets cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	317
„ with ashpits provided	...	...	...	...	...	94
„ with brewhouses cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	174
„ with paving relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	72
„ with sanitary sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	44

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

The following detailed table shows at a glance what has been done under the above Act:—

Inspection under and for purposes of Section 17	...	...	...	...	...	133
Considered unfit	...	...	...	...	...	96
Represented	...	...	...	...	...	96
Closing orders made	...	...	...	...	...	34
„ „ deferred	...	...	...	...	...	29
„ „ not made	...	...	...	...	...	20
„ „ determined	...	...	...	...	...	17
Demolition orders made	...	...	...	...	...	12
Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	31
Under consideration at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	18

Of the 20 houses where closing orders were not made by the Council, sanitary defects have been remedied at 9, whilst the remainder are receiving attention.

Sanitary repairs have been remedied at 16 of the 29 houses where the closing orders were deferred, whilst at the remaining 13 the work is in hand.

Although general sanitary defects have been found at each of the above houses, generally speaking, it is on account of dampness and defective ventilation that many are considered unfit for human habitation.

WATER SUPPLY.

There is no alteration in the water supply of this district, which is from three sources—

- (1) The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.
- (2) Wolverhampton Corporation Waterworks.
- (3) The Bilston Council Waterworks.

There is nearly always a constant supply. Occasionally it is cut off, but only at times when there are repairs required for bursts, etc.

During the year 14 houses have been connected with the tap water by your Surveyor.

Very little water from wells is used in the district at the present time, other than for yard cleansing purposes.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, REFUSE DISPOSAL AND SEWERAGE.

The same system is adopted as in previous years for getting rid of Refuse and Sewerage.

During your former Medical Officer of Health's tenure of office complaints were received of nuisances existing, arising from open sewers in Hollywell Street and Church Road, and I have received complaints from Rookery Drive from the same cause.

These complaints were duly brought before the Council, and Deputations appointed to inspect. As a result, it has been decided to construct covered sewers in the two former localities, whilst the complaint from Rookery Drive is still under consideration.

CLOSET, ETC., ACCOMMODATION.

Privy middens	...	...	143
Privy vaults	...	...	3096
Pail closets	...	...	20
Water closets	...	...	64
Ashbins	...	...	36
Ashpits	...	...	1929

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are 13 licensed Slaughter Houses in the district and 1 registered, and also 36 Meat Shops.

175 visits have been made to these premises during the year. It has been found necessary to seize meat on four occasions, owing either to its diseased or unsound condition.

The following is a list of seizures made:—

38 lbs. of unsound Beef;
3½ lbs. unsound Foreign Mutton;
1 pair parasitic Sheep's lungs;
1 fluky liver.

Eight notices have been served with respect to defective floors, walls and drains, and these have now been complied with.

TABLE V.

**Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and
Home Work.**

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
FACTORIES (including Factory Laundries)	39	...	...
WORKSHOPS (including Workshop Laundries)	69	...	...
WORKPLACES (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	6	...	...
TOTAL ...	114	...	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			No. of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	7	5	...	...
Want of Ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	1	1	...	...
Sanitary accommo- { insufficient ... ..	...	...	...	..
dation { unsuitable or defective	4	...	...	...
{ not separate for sexes	2	2	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake-houses (ss. 97 to 100)... ..	2	2	...	...
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	16	10	...	...

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107										OUTWORK IN UNWHOLE-SOME PREMISES, SECTION 108			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110		
	Lists received from Employers										Prosecutions		In-stances served	In-stances	Orders made (S. 110)	Prose-cution (Secl. 109, 10)
	Twice in the year		Once in the year		Lists (5)	Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists (8)		Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.		Failing to send lists (10)	In-stances (11)	Prose-cutions (12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
(1)	Lists (2)	Contrac-tors (3)	Outworkers	Work-men (4)		Contrac-tors (6)	Work-men (7)									
Wearing Apparel—																
(1) making, &c.	14	...		41	7	...	51	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Furniture & Upholstry	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
File Making	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cables and Chains	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	14	...		41	7	...	51	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.				5.—OTHER MATTERS.			
Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year		Number	Class (1)	Class (1)		No.	
(1)	(2)	(2)		(2)	(2)	(2)	
Bakehouses	...	23	Matters Notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—				
Boots, Shoes, &c.	...	10	Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)...				
Dressmaking	...	11	Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)				
Tailoring	...	13	Inspector taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)				
Joinery, &c.	...	8	Other				
Tin and Ironworkers	...	5	Underground Bakehouses (s. 101):—				
Wheelwrights	...	5	Certificates granted during the year				
Miscellaneous	...	17	In use at the end of the year				
TOTAL		92					

Summary of Sanitary Work done in the Nuisance Inspector's Department during the year 1912 in the Urban District of Coseley.

(Signed) PERCY SCHOFIELD,
INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

One new Slaughter House has been registered during the year, while in two instances changes of occupation have been made.

For the most part the Slaughter Houses are kept in a cleanly condition. Generally speaking, the quality of meat supplied to the district is good.

Many of the butchers buy their meat from the adjoining towns, consequently the Slaughter Houses are not in such frequent use as in past years.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

There are 24 Dairy Farmers in the district, occupying 33 Cowsheds, and stalling approximately 210 Milking Cows. Two Cowsheds have been discontinued during the year, and a new one added to the register.

Many of the Cowsheds visited were not up to the desired standard, and in some cases direct contravention of the Council's Bye-laws were met with.

The defects found, and for which notices have been served, were defective drains, floors, insufficient light and ventilation, insufficient water supply, manure too near sheds, and dirty sheds.

As many of these defects have now been abated, a direct improvement in the Cowsheds has been effected during the year.

At one shed a Milking Cow was found suffering from some constitutional ailment. The owner was advised to call in a Veterinary Surgeon. This was done, with the result that the animal was certified to be totally unfit for dairy purposes, and was consequently slaughtered.

One new cow-keeper was discovered keeping milch cows in a shed which was totally unfit for the purpose. Although trouble was experienced with him, he has now provided a byre which in every way meets your Council's requirements.

Milk is retailed from 10 shops in the district, and in one instance only had we to call the attention of the seller to the unclean condition of the place where it was stored.

It is important that every care should be taken with the sale of milk, as to its purity, and cleanliness of utensils in which it is stored, as it is a frequent source of disease.

The milk and cattle generally are of a good quality.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 44 Factories, 92 Workshops, including 23 Bakehouses, as compared with 45, 124, and 21 in 1912.

Sixteen nuisances were discovered, and of this number 10 have been remedied, after verbal notice to the occupiers.

Two cases were reported where separate sanitary conveniences for the sexes did not exist; these have been remedied by your Surveyor, additional accommodation having been provided.

HOME WORK.

There are 92 Outworkers in the district, receiving their work from 14 firms, of which 12 are situated out of our area.

One case of infectious disease was notified from one of these homes.

NOTIFICATION ACT.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum has become notifiable during the year, but as there is no nurse in the district capable of attending to these cases, they are treated at the neighbouring hospitals.

This Act has become compulsorily notifiable by the Local Government Board, and comes into force on April 1st, 1914.

Four cases have been notified during the year, and in no case have very severe complications set in, such as blindness, etc.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, has not been adopted in the district.

There has been no epidemic during the year. During the latter part of the year, owing to the inclement weather, influenza was very prevalent, and accounted for a number of deaths from respiratory trouble.

In concluding my Report, I wish to tender my best thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the kindness and consideration I have received from them, and the Clerk. Also to my brother Officers for the willing help I have received at their hands in helping me to carry out my duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

WALTER HY. ALLEN, L.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
Medical Officer of Health.

February 16th, 1914.

COSELEY EDUCATION AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SUPERVISOR OF MEDICAL INSPECTION OF
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

(*WALTER HY. ALLEN, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.*)

FOR THE YEAR

1913.

*PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE EDUCATION
AUTHORITY.*

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Annual Report

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SUPERVISOR OF MEDICAL INSPECTION
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(*WALTER HY. ALLEN, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. Eng.*)

FOR THE YEAR 1913.

To the Chairman and Members of the Coseley Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

In presenting to you my First Annual Report as Supervisor, it is necessary to refer to the changes which have occurred in the personnel of the Medical Staff. Both Dr. W. M. Clendinnen and Dr. Thos. Johnson have retired during the year, and the Staff is constituted at present as follows:—

WALTER HY. ALLEN, School Medical Officer and also Medical Officer of Health.

CHARLES HOPE WADDELL, Assistant School Medical Officer.

The Committee direct that the duty of the School Medical Officer is to supervise the work generally, to visit the Schools and report on the condition of the School premises, to prepare the Annual and other Reports, and to perform the functions specially assigned to him by the Code.

The duty of the Assistant School Medical Officer is to examine those children required by the Code to be inspected, and to record the results in a book provided for the purpose. He also signs notices to parents where treatment of defects is called for.

The examinations which have taken place during the year have been of children either entering or leaving School, though, I believe, when asked, the Assistant Medical Officer has given advice regarding children to whom his attention has been called by the Teachers. There has been, however, no systematic “following-up.”

There are nine Schools, 3 non-provided and 6 provided, accommodating 4,485 children.

A new Junior Department has been opened at Parkfield, and the Mixed Department of St. Chad's School has been closed, and therefore disappears from the Tables.

ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY THE HEAD TEACHERS.

Questions 1—6 (on the "Condition Table") are filled in by the Head Teachers on the Committee's Schedule of Medical Inspection, and they also give assistance in preparing the children for inspection. They also fill in (in pencil) their opinion as to mental condition.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

Usually the mother is in attendance when the child is inspected. Directions are given as to treatment, and no doubt, in many cases, these directions are carried out. Nevertheless, systematic "following-up" would be a great benefit.

The number of visits made by your former Assistant Medical Officer was 35, and by your present Officer 3 . The number of children inspected was 776; boys 369, girls 407.

NOTES ON THE SCHOOLS.

MOUNT PLEASANT (JUNIOR).

Number examined:—Boys, 39; girls, 47.

A large number of boys were suffering from Nose and Throat trouble, viz., 21 out of 39. One-third of the total number examined suffered from Enlarged Tonsils.

The clothing and footgear of the boys were more satisfactory than those of the girls, a reversal of the usual order of things. Nutrition was above the average, particularly amongst the girls, two-thirds of whom were classed as "good."

The Teeth of the girls were very good, and much better than those of the boys. About two-fifths of the girls were suffering from Enlarged Tonsils, a proportion even greater than that of the boys.

MOUNT PLEASANT (SENIOR).

Number examined:—Boys, 45; girls, 52.

The clothing and footgear of the boys were above the average.

There was not a single case of defective hearing among the 97 children examined.

As in the Junior School, the teeth of the girls were much better than those of the boys. There were only 4 girls out of 52 with more than 4 decayed teeth.

There were 10 boys with defective vision out of 45 examined. The proportion of girls with defective vision was rather large also, 8 out of 52.

DAISY BANK (INFANTS).

Number examined:—Boys, 47; girls, 50.

The teeth of the children were above the average, 45 having sound teeth out of the 93 examined. Over 50 per cent. of the girls' teeth were sound. The nutrition was not nearly so good as at Mount Pleasant. One case of Scabies was reported at this School (a girl).

DAISY BANK (MIXED).

Number examined:—Boys, 20; girls, 26.

The clothing of the boys was very poor, and 11 out of 20 had unsatisfactory footgear. The clothing of the girls was much better. The nutrition of the boys was poor, only 2 being good out of 20 examined. Forty per cent. of the boys examined were suffering from defective vision, and one of every three girls was similarly afflicted.

HURST HILL (INFANTS).

Number examined:—Boys, 28; girls, 25.

The teeth of the boys were bad, 16 out of the 28 boys examined had 4 or more than 4 unsound teeth. The teeth of the girls were similarly bad.

The clothing of the girls was quite good, not one being marked as unsatisfactory.

Apparently the nutrition of the girls is worse than at Daisy Bank, only 5 being marked good out of 25 examined. The nutrition of the boys was somewhat better, but not more so than at Daisy Bank.

The girls' heads were cleaner than in the majority of cases.

HURST HILL (MIXED).

Number examined:—Boys, 8; girls, 19.

There were only 3 boys examined, who were between 12 and 13 years of age, so the figures for height and weight are comparatively worthless for comparison purposes.

Not a single boy was suffering from Nose or Throat trouble. The nutrition of the girls was above the average, over 50 per cent. being returned as "good."

The proportion of girls with verminous heads was rather above the average. The teeth were better than the average.

TABLE 1.—CONDITION.—ENTRANTS.

CONDITION.		MOUNT PLEASANT				DAISY BANK.				HURST HILL.				LANESFIELD.				BROAD LANES.				PARKFIELD.				CHRIST CHURCH.				ST. CHAD'S.				ST. MARY'S.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%				
CLOTHING	Satisfactory ..	33	33	66	76.7	41	48	89	95.7	22	25	47	88.7	9	10	19	76	14	16	30	100	47	44	91	96.8	15	21	36	92.3	11	7	18	94.7				
	Unsatisfactory ..	6	14	20	23.3	2	2	4	4.3	6	--	6	11.3	3	3	6	24	--	--	--	--	1	1	2	7.7	2	1	3	7.7	--	1	1	5.3				
FOOTGEAR	Satisfactory ..	30	33	63	73.2	31	41	72	77.5	20	21	41	77.4	9	10	19	76	14	14	28	93.3	47	43	90	95.7	13	21	34	87.2	10	7	17	88.4				
	Unsatisfactory ..	9	14	23	26.8	12	9	21	22.5	8	4	12	22.6	3	3	6	24	--	2	2	4	6.6	1	3	4	4.3	4	1	5	12.8	1	1	2	11.5			
NUTRITION	Good ..	18	31	49	57	11	12	23	24.7	7	5	12	22.6	3	4	7	28	--	6	6	12	20	13	15	28	29.8	1	1	2	5.2	--	1	1	5.3			
	Normal ..	20	14	34	39.5	31	36	67	72.1	19	18	37	69.9	9	9	18	72	14	10	24	80	34	28	62	65.9	16	21	37	94.8	11	7	18	94.7				
	Sub-normal ..	1	2	3	3.5	1	2	3	3.2	2	2	4	7.5	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	3	4	4.3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
	Bad ..	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
CLEANLINESS OF HEAD	Vermineous and Un- clean ..	3	20	23	26.8	--	21	21	22.5	3	5	8	15	2	6	8	32	--	4	4	8	13.3	2	21	23	24.4	--	2	2	5.2	2	1	3	15.8			
	Ringworm ..	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
	Other locally infective ..	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
	All other ..	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
CLEANLINESS OF BODY	Vermineous and Un- clean ..	1	6	7	8.1	1	4	5	5.4	2	--	2	3.7	--	1	1	4	--	2	2	4	6.6	3	10	13	13.8	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
	Ringworm ..	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
	Other locally infective ..	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
	All other ..	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
TEETH	Dentures sound ..	13	26	39	45.4	23	22	45	48.4	8	6	14	26.4	8	6	14	56	--	1	1	2	3.3	19	13	32	34	6	10	16	41	3	3	6	.58			
	Less than 4 Carious ..	8	9	17	19.8	10	18	28	30.1	4	7	11	20.8	1	5	6	24	7	11	18	60	16	20	38	34.1	9	6	15	38.5	3	6	9	47.4				
	No. with 4 or more Carious ..	18	12	30	34.8	10	10	20	21.5	16	12	28	52.8	3	2	5	20	7	4	11	36.6	13	13	26	27.6	2	6	8	20.5	5	2	7	36.8				

TABLE 2.—CONDITION.—LEAVERS.

CONDITION.		MOUNT PLEASANT.				DAISY BANK.				HURST HILL.				LANESFIELD.				BROAD LANES.				CHRIST CHURCH.				ST. MARY'S.				
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%					
CLOTHING	Satisfactory ..	40	42	82	84.5	12	19	31	67.4	5	12	17	63	..	..	..	..	14	11	25	71.4	34	53	87	92.5	15	..	15	..	100
	Unsatisfactory ..	5	10	15	15.5	8	7	15	22.6	3	7	10	37	..	..	..	..	3	7	10	28.6	7	..	7	7.5	..	..	..	..	..
FOOTGEAR	Satisfactory ..	37	41	78	80.4	9	19	28	60.8	5	12	17	63	..	..	..	..	13	9	22	62.8	34	50	84	89.3	15	..	15	..	100
	Unsatisfactory ..	8	11	19	19.6	11	7	18	39.2	3	7	10	37	..	..	..	..	4	9	13	37.2	7	3	10	10.7	..	..	..	..	..
NUTRITION	Good ..	9	16	25	25.7	2	4	6	13.1	4	10	14	51.9	..	..	..	..	4	4	8	22.8	13	16	29	30.8	..	..	..	..	..
	Normal ..	31	32	63	65	17	21	38	82.6	3	8	11	40.7	..	..	..	..	12	14	26	74.4	27	34	61	65	..	..	..	..	100
	Sub-normal ..	5	4	9	9.3	1	1	2	4.3	1	1	2	7.4	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2.8	1	3	4	4.2	..	..	..	..	..
	Bad ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
CLEANLINESS OF HEAD	Vermineous and Un- clean ..	1	24	25	25.7	1	10	11	23.6	..	12	12	44.4	..	..	..	..	1	13	14	40	2	32	34	36.2	..	..	..	..	..
	Ringworm ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2.1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other locally infective	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	All other ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
CLEANLINESS OF BODY	Vermineous and Un- clean ..	4	4	8	8.2	2	1	3	6.5	1	3	4	14.8	..	..	..	..	5	5	10	28.6	3	4	7	7.5	..	..	..	..	..
	Ringworm ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Other locally infective	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	All other ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TEETH	Dentures sound ..	11	9	20	20.6	4	7	11	23.6	2	7	9	33.3	..	..	..	..	10	8	18	51.4	11	28	39	41.5	4	..	4	..	26.6
	Less than 4 Carious	25	39	64	66.1	12	14	26	56.9	3	6	9	33.3	..	..	..	..	6	7	13	37.2	17	19	36	38.3	7	..	7	..	56.6
	No. with 4 or more Carious ..	9	4	13	13.3	4	5	9	19.5	3	6	9	33.3	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	11.4	13	6	19	20.2	4	..	4	..	26.6

TABLE 3—CONDITION.—TOTALS.

CONDITION		ENTRANTS			LEAVERS			GRAND TOTALS				FINAL TOTAL.	
		Boys	%	Girls	%	Boys	%	Boys	%	Girls	%	Total	%
1. CLOTHING	Satisfactory ...	203	91	216	90.4	120	82.2	137	81.6	323	87.6	676	87.1
	Unsatisfactory ...	20	9	23	9.6	26	17.8	31	18.4	46	12.4	100	12.9
2. FOOTGEAR	Satisfactory ...	185	83	202	84.6	113	77.4	131	78	298	80.8	631	81.3
	Unsatisfactory ...	38	17	37	15.4	33	22.6	37	22	71	19.2	145	18.7
3. NUTRITION	Good ...	55	24.6	77	32.2	32	21.9	50	30	87	23.6	214	27.4
	Normal ...	163	73.2	153	64.1	105	72	109	64.7	268	72.6	530	68.5
	Sub-normal ...	5	2.2	9	3.7	9	6.1	9	5.3	14	3.8	32	4.1
	Bad ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. CLEANLINESS OF HEAD	Verminous and Unclean	12	5.3	83	34.7	4	2.8	91	54	16	4.3	160	20.6
	Ringworm ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	.6	—	—	1	.1
	Other locally infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	All other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. CLEANLINESS OF BODY	Verminous and Unclean	7	3.1	25	10.4	15	10.2	17	10.1	22	5.9	64	8.2
	Ringworm ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Other locally infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	All other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. TEETH	Dentures sound ...	83	37.2	94	39.3	42	28.7	59	35.1	125	33.8	278	35.8
	Less than 4 carious ...	61	27.3	83	34.7	70	48	85	50.6	131	35.5	299	25.6
	No. with 4 or more carious...	72	35.5	62	26	34	23.3	24	14.3	113	30.7	199	38.6

7. NOSE AND THROAT	Impeded Nose-breathing Chronic Pharyngitis ... Tonsils enlarged ... Cervical Glands enlarged Submaxillary Glands enlarged ...	10 2 43 4 4	4.4 .9 19.3 1.8 1.8	10 — 52 2 3	4.1 — 21.7 .8 1.2	4 — 9 — 1	2.7 — 6.1 — .7	11 1 20 — —	6.5 .6 11.9 — —	14 2 52 4 5	3.8 .5 14 1 1.3	21 1 72 2 3	5.1 .2 17.7 .5 .7	35 3 124 6 8	4.5 .3 15.9 .7 1
8. EYE DISEASES	Minor non-infective ailments ... Infective Ophthalmic ailments ... Opacities... Squint ... All other ...	3 3 — 4 1	1.3 1.3 — 1.8 .5	1 1 — 2 6	.4 .4 — .8 2.5	— 1 — — —	— .7 — — —	2 — — 1 —	1.2 — — .6 —	3 4 — 4 1	.8 1 — 1 .2	3 1 — 3 6	.7 .2 — .7 1.4	6 5 — 7 7	.7 .6 — .9 .9
9. VISION	Satisfactory ... Unsatisfactory ...	— —	— —	— —	— —	125 21	85.7 14.3	133 35	79.2 20.8	125 21	85.7 14.3	133 35	79.2 20.8	258 56	82.1 17.9
10. EAR CONDITION	Satisfactory ... Ear-discharging ...	223 —	100 —	239 —	100 —	146 —	100 —	165 3	98.3 1.7	369 —	100 —	404 3	99.3 .7	773 3	99.7 .3
11. HEARING	Satisfactory ... Defective ...	220 3	98.7 1.3	236 3	98.8 1.2	144 2	98.6 1.4	165 3	98.3 1.7	364 5	98.7 1.3	401 6	98.6 1.4	765 11	98.6 1.4
12. SPEECH	Stammering ... Lisping ... Indistinctness ... Idioglossia ...	— 2 1 1	— .9 .5 .5	— 4 1 1	— 1.6 .4 .4	— — 1 —	— — .7 —	— — 1 —	— — .6 —	— 2 2 1	— .4 .4 .2	— 4 2 1	— .9 .5 .2	— 6 4 2	— .7 .4 .2
13. MENTAL CONDITION	Bright or Fair ... Dull and Backward | Two years Backward | Three years	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	122 19 5	83.6 13 3.4	129 28 11	76.9 16.6 6.5	122 19 5	83.6 13 3.4	129 28 11	76.9 16.6 6.5	251 47 16	80 11.5 8.5

TABLE 4.—HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS.

SCHOOLS.	ENTRANTS, 5—6.										LEAVERS, 12—13.																		
	HEIGHTS.					WEIGHTS.					HEIGHTS.					WEIGHTS.													
	Boys			Girls		Boys			Girls		Boys			Girls		Boys			Girls										
	No.	Ft. Ins.	Cent.	max. No.	Ft. Ins.	Cent.	Lbs.	Kilog.	max. No.	Ft. Ins.	Cent.	Lbs.	Kilog.	max. No.	Ft. Ins.	Cent.	Lbs.	Kilog.	max. No.	Ft. Ins.	Cent.	Lbs.	Kilog.						
MOUNT PLEASANT	25	3	4	101.6	28	3	2 ⁵ / ₈	98.1	25	39 ¹ / ₂	17.95	28	36 ¹ / ₂	16.59	45	4	6 ⁵ / ₈	138.8	46	4	6 ¹ / ₂	138.4	45	72	32.7	46	70 ¹ / ₂	31.9	
DAISY BANK	...	31	3	3 ¹ / ₂	100.3	39	3	3	99	31	36 ⁵ / ₈	16.74	39	35 ¹ / ₃	16	20	4	5 ² / ₃	136.3	24	4	5 ² / ₃	136.3	20	69	31.4	24	69 ¹ / ₂	31.6
HURST HILL	...	24	3	4 ² / ₃	103.3	25	3	3 ⁷ / ₈	101.2	24	37 ³ / ₄	17.15	25	36 ¹ / ₃	16.50	3	4	9 ¹ / ₂	146	10	4	6 ⁹ / ₁₀	139.4	3	79 ² / ₃	36.2	10	73 ³ / ₁₀	34.2
LANESFIELD		6	3	5 ² / ₈	105.8	4	3	3 ³ / ₈	100	6	37 ² / ₃	17.11	4	35 ³ / ₄	16.25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
BROAD LANES	..	3	3	3 ² / ₃	100.7	6	3	3 ¹ / ₆	99.5	3	34	15.45	6	36 ¹ / ₂	16.59	17	4	4 ³ / ₄	133.9	18	4	5 ¹ / ₂	135.9	17	68	30.9	18	67 ⁵ / ₈	30.7
PARKFIELDS	...	9	3	5 ¹ / ₃	104.9	10	3	5 ¹ / ₆	104.6	9	37	16.80	10	38 ³ / ₁₀	17.40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
CHRIST CHURCH...		17	3	4 ¹ / ₄	102.2	26	3	3 ⁹ / ₁₆	101.3	17	36 ² / ₃	16.67	26	36 ² / ₃	16.70	38	4	6 ² / ₅	138.2	47	4	6 ⁴ / ₅	139.2	38	72 ³ / ₁₀	32.8	47	73	34.1
ST. CHAD'S	...	4	3	3 ² / ₄	101	5	3	2	94.5	4	37 ¹ / ₂	17.04	5	33 ² / ₅	15.20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ST. MARY'S	...	8	3	5 ¹ / ₄	104.8	7	3	4 ² / ₇	102.3	8	38 ⁵ / ₈	18.01	7	37	16.80	12	4	6 ¹ / ₂	127.4	—	—	—	—	12	71 ¹ / ₃	32.4	—	—	—
TOTALS & AVERAGE		127	3	4 ⁵ / ₁₁	102.7	150	3	3 ¹ / ₆	99.5	127	37 ¹ / ₃	16.9	150	36 ¹ / ₄	16.4	135	4	6 ¹ / ₂	138.4	145	4	6 ¹ / ₄	137.7	135	72	32.7	145	70 ⁷ / ₁₀	32.1

TABLE 5.—AGES OF CHILDREN INSPECTED.

SCHOOLS	UNDER 5		5—6		6—12		12—13		OVER 13		TOTALS		GRAND TOTAL
	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	BOYS	GIRLS	
MOUNT PLEASANT	9	16	25	28	5	3	41	46	4	6	84	99	183
DAISY BANK	8	7	31	39	4	4	20	24	—	2	63	76	139
HURST HILL	—	—	24	25	4	—	3	10	5	9	36	44	80
LANESFIELD	2	8	6	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	11	12	23
BROAD LANES	9	7	3	6	—	—	17	18	—	—	29	31	60
PARKFIELDS	—	—	9	10	5	6	—	—	—	—	14	16	30
CHRIST CHURCH	27	16	17	26	4	4	38	47	3	6	89	99	188
ST. CHAD'S	12	16	4	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	17	22	39
ST. MARY'S	2	—	9	7	—	1	12	—	3	—	26	8	34
TOTALS	69	70	128	150	26	19	131	145	15	23	369	407	776

LANESFIELD (INFANTS).

Number examined:—Boys, 11; girls 12.

The clothing and footgear were exceptionally good. The teeth of the boys were rather bad. There were only 4 girls over 5 years of age examined. The average heights and weights are therefore not very trustworthy. The teeth of the girls were exceptionally good.

LANESFIELD (MIXED).

Apparently no leaving boys and girls were examined during the year. Last year the numbers were: Boys, 7; girls, 28.

BROAD LANES (INFANTS).

Number examined:—Girls, 13; boys, 12.

Only 3 boys over 5 years of age were examined. The average heights and weights are therefore unreliable. The boys' teeth were good; two-thirds were marked as "dentures sound." The girls' teeth were also above the average. There were only 6 girls over 5 years of age; the heights and weights are therefore not reliable.

BROAD LANES (MIXED).

Number examined: Boys, 17; girls, 18.

Boys' teeth remarkably good; the girls' teeth also were good. Not a single instance of Nose, Throat or Ear trouble among the 17 boys examined.

There was 50 per cent. of faulty footgear among the girls. The proportion of children with dirty heads is rather large.

PARKFIELD (JUNIOR).

Number examined:—Boys, 14; girls, 16.

The clothing and footgear was very good, particularly the former. The boys' teeth were very bad, not one with sound teeth out of 14 examined.

Girls were also bad in this respect, only 1 with sound teeth out of 16 examined.

CHRIST CHURCH (INFANTS).

Number examined:—Boys, 48; girls, 46.

Boys' teeth good; the girls' teeth were much worse, and many had from 6—10 carious teeth. The clothing and footgear were very good.

CHRIST CHURCH (MIXED).

Number examined:—Boys, 41; girls, 53.

The condition of the girls' clothing and footgear was much superior to that of the boys. The proportion of girls with verminous heads was large, three-fifths had nits in their hair; 20 per cent. of girls had defective eyesight.

ST. CHAD'S (INFANTS).

Number examined:—Boys, 17; girls, 22.

There were only 4 boys between 5—6 years of age, so the average heights and weights are not reliable. The teeth of the boys were good.

There were only 5 girls between 5—6 years of age. The average heights and weights are therefore not to be relied on. Out of 39 boys and girls examined, only 2 were marked good in regard to nutrition. Girls' heads were much cleaner than the average, and their teeth were good.

ST. MARY'S (INFANTS).

Number examined:—Boys, 11; girls, 8.

Boys' teeth were rather bad; there were several children with 9—12 carious teeth. There was only one child out of 19 whose nutrition was marked as above normal.

The teeth of the girls were below average; not one of the 8 girls examined had sound teeth.

ST. MARY'S (BOYS).

Number examined: Boys, 15.

There was not one case of completely defective clothing or footgear. Not a single boy was classed as above normal in regard to nutrition. The same thing occurred among the Infants.

GENERAL NOTES.

CLOTHING.

There is an improvement in this matter, the percentage of "unsatisfactories" in this respect being 12.9, as against 21.4 in 1912, and 17.2 in 1911.

FOOTGEAR.

Here also an improvement is to be chronicled, 18.7 being the proportion marked "unsatisfactory," as against 24 per cent. in 1912, and 23.7 in 1911.

NUTRITION.

Improvement is noticeable in regard to nutrition. In 1912 the percentage of "sub-normal" children was 7.7; this year it is 4.1.

CLEANLINESS.

Much yet remains to be done in this respect, and girls' heads especially are often deplorably bad.

NOSE AND THROAT CONDITIONS.

An increase is recorded in regard to the number of children suffering from Enlarged Tonsils, and from Impeded Nose Breathing. Nearly 16 per cent. were suffering from the former, and 4.5 from the latter. Last year the percentages were 10 and 2.4 respectively.

EAR CONDITIONS.

In this respect there is very great improvement. Last year 8 children had "discharging" ears; this year there are only 3. Last year 24 children were suffering from defective hearing; this year there are only 11.

VISION.

The figures in regard to imperfect vision are practically the same this year as last. The percentages are: Boys, 14.3; girls, 20.8. Last year they were: Boys, 14.5; girls, 20.6. This is a matter which should have attention, as children with bad eyesight are often mistaken for being dull.

TEETH.

Systematic instruction ought to be given in the Schools with regard to the care of the teeth. Many of the children seem to have about half their teeth bad. This will seriously interfere with their health in the future unless attended to.

SPEECH.

A striking feature is the freedom of the children from defects in speech. Probably a great deal of this is due to the amount of care which is now given in Schools to speech-training.

METHOD OF SWEEPING THE SCHOOLS.

During the year the Committee has inaugurated a new method of sweeping the School floors, and for the periodical use of disinfectants. I am informed that considerable benefit has been felt from the change.

Only in one instance has any reason arisen necessitating the closing of Schools. That was at Daisy Bank Infants' Department, in October, for a period of three weeks for Chicken-Pox.

SANITATION OF SCHOOL PREMISES.

In the report of last year the Medical Officer of Health gave a detailed list of defects found in the Schools. I have made visits to the Schools, and find that some of these defects have been remedied, though a considerable number of minor ones are still to be found.

I understand the Committee have decided upon re-roofing the Hurst Hill Council Schools, and that the Board of Education have approved the Committee's suggestions.

The interior of the Infant Department of this School, and the interior of the Christ Church Mixed Schools have been cleaned and coloured during the year. The flooring at Daisy Bank Council School has also received attention, and I understand also that the Committee contemplate installing a low-pressure hot water heating apparatus in Lanesfield School.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

WALTER HY. ALLEN,

School Medical Officer.

March 4th, 1914.

